

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W

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FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2231

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0907

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PGOV PINT CG

SUBJECT: SHABA'S POLITICAL BUREAU ELECTION

REF: LUBUMBASHI 0885

1. ALL REPORTS INDICATE THAT SHABA'S POLITICAL BUREAU ELECTION ON OCTOBER 22 WENT VERY SMOOTHLY. POLLING PLACES STAYED OPEN UNTIL 10PM ON SAUTURDAY TO ACCOMMODATE EVERYONE SO THAT POLL COULD BE CLOSED ON SUNDAY. LITTLE HARASSMENT REPORTED AT VOTING STATIONS. ILLITERATES WERE ALLOWED TO BRING PERSON OF THEIR CHOICE TO FILL OUT BALLOT WITH POLLING COMMISSIONERS READING NAME TO VOTER TO CONFIRM FREEDON OF CHOICE.

2. MAJOR LOGISTICAL PROBLEM THOUGHT TO BE COLLECTING VOTES FROM RURAL CONSTITUENCIES. METHODIST PILOT IN KOLWEZI SAID HE WAS ASKED TO PICK UP VOTES FROM WEST SHABA, BUT WAS UNABLE TO UNDERTAKE MISSION. HE WAS UNCERTAIN WHO COULD PICK UP BALLOT OR WHEN. SIMILAR PROBLEMS YRE LIKELY TO OTHER RURAL AREAS, REQUIRING CONSIDERABLE TIME FOR ACCUMULATION OF ALL BALLOTS AT  
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CENTRAL VERIRICATION POINT.

3. THIRTEEN CANDIDATES PRESENTED THEMSELVES FOR ELECTION TO SHABA'S TWO SEATS IN THE POLITICAL BUREAU. CAM PAIGNING UNTIL THE FINAL DAY WAS VERY ACTIVE. CHARACTERIZED BY NUMEROUS SIGNBOARDS, NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT PARADES OF HONKING AUTOMOBILES, AND POLITICAL

RALLIES. ACTIVINESS OF MOST CAMPAIGNS WAS INDICATOR THAT CANDIDATES SAW ELECTION AS OPPORTUNIT FOR FREE EXPRESSION OF VIEWS.

4. VOTING EXPECTED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE LARGELY ALONG TRIBAL LINES. IN RURAL AREAS THIS COULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED, BUT IN URBAN COMMUNITIES, TRIBAL AFFILIATION STRENGTHENED AS CAMPAIGN PROGRESSED. MAJOR FACTOR IN URBAN TRIBAL ORIENTATION SAID TO BE ACTIVE CAMPAING DURING LUBUMBASHI LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION OF KYUNGU WA KUMWANZA CALLING ON PEOPLE TO REJECT ALL NON-SHABAN CANDIDATES. HIS HARSH TACTICS WERE DIRECTED AT KASAIANS--WHO ARE NEAR MAJORITY IN COPPER BELT. HIS RAVINGS WHICH WERE NOTED WITHOUT GREAT EXCITEMENT DURING HIS OWN CAMPAIGN DEVELOPED SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS DURING PAST WEEK. HIS OPINIONS SPREAD QUICKLY TO LIKASI AND KOLWEZI SOLIDIFYING VIEWS OF URBAN VOTERS ALONG TRIBAL LINES. MANY URBAN BOGERS SWITCHED CANDI DATES IN FINAL DAYS OF ELECTION TO SUPPORT TRIBAL BROTHERS. AT LEAST THREE CANDIDATES APPEARED BEFORE GROUPS TO REDPUDIATE STATEMENTS BY KYUNGA. NEVERTHE LESS THE CHALLENGE HAD BEEN ISSUED AND MOST ALL OF NATIVE SHABANS THOUGHT TO HAVE SUPPORTED TRIBAL BROTHERS. MANY KASAIANS WHO MIGHT HAVE PREFERRED NATIVE SHABAN CANDIDATE BECAUSE OF PAST SENSITIVITIES OVER THEIR OVERWHELMING PRESENCE SWITCHED IN LAST DAYS TO KASAIN

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CANDIDATES. BY ONE ESTIMATE ONLY 20 PC OF KASAIANS IN SHABAS URBAN AREAS VOTED FOR NON-KASAIAN CANDIDATES.

5. IN EARLY DAYS OF CAMPAIGN MOST POPULAR CANDIATES THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN FORMER MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, KIBASSA MALIBA MASELE WHO HAD DONE MUCH FOR EDUCATION AND SPORTS IN SHABA AND ENGINEER MULONGO MISHA KABANGA WHO PROBABLY SPENT MOST MONEY OF ALL CAMPAIGNERS.

6. IN FINAL DAYS, SUPPORTED POLARIZED AROUND TRIBAL CANDIDATES. TWO MOST POPULAR CANDIDATES EXPECTED TO BE THOSE WITH LARGEST TRIBAL FOLLOWING WHO DIDNOT FACE STRONG INTER-TRIVAL RIVALS. MOST HEAVILTY REPE SENTED TRBIEL IS PROBABLY SHABA-LUBA IN NORTHER PART OF REGION. GRAND CHIEF OF SHABA/LUBA: KASONGO NIEMBO, WHO HAS ALREADY WON THE FIRST PLACE SEAT IN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FROM HAUT LOMANI IS EXPECTED TO BE STRONGEST CANDIATE AMONG SHABA/LUBA. KABIMBI NHOY DELEGATE GENERAL FOR BRASSIMBA THOUGHT TO BE SECOND STRONG SHABA/LUBA CANDIDATE. BECAUSE WAR HAS DISPERSED

SO MANY OF LUNDA THEIR CHANCES OF SECURING SEAT  
NOT EXPECTED TO BE GOOD. STRONGEST LUNDA CANDIDATES  
THOUGHT TO BE RUMBU-A-KANYIMBA PROFESSOR OF FRENCH AT  
UNAZA WHO WAGED VIOLENT CAMPAIGN APPEALING TO ALL TRIBES  
AND YAV CHANG, FORMER MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND AMBASSADOR  
TO SPAIN. SUUVORT OF KASAI/LUBA THOUGHT TO BE STRONGEST  
FOR MUDIAY WA MUDIAY, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SOLBENA TEXTILE  
MILLS. RUSH TO SUPPORT TRIBAL BROTHERS EXPECTED TO  
HURT CHANCES OF POPULAR CANDIDATES LIKE KIBASSA WHO IS  
MEMBER OF SMALL SANGA TRIBE AND MULONGO WHO IS HALF LUBA  
AND HALF EUROPEAN.

7. POPULARITY IN VOTES NOT EXPECTED TO INSURE VICTORY AT  
POLLS. RESULT OF FIRST TWO ELECTIONS IN SHABA  
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REGARDED CYNICALLY. SOME SAY DECISION ON VICTORS FOR  
POLITICAL BUREAU MADE DURING PRESIDENT'S VISIT IN MID  
SEPTEMBER. OTHER SAYS THAT VICTORS WILL BE NEGOTIATED  
BY OFFICIALS ONCE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS ARE KNOWN. DESPITE  
GENERAL CYNICISM ABOUT LIKELY RESULTS MOST AGREE THAT  
ELECTION EXERCISE WAS STEP IN POSITIVE DIRECTION FOR  
ZAIRE.  
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